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REFORMER

chapters of his first volume, " La Fortune des Rougon," to the acting-editor of " Le Siecle," with which journal he had negotiated its serial issue. " Le Siecle " then held in Paris a position similar to that of " The Morning Advertiser " in London. That is to say, it was largely the organ of the licensed victuallers, without, however, belonging to them. Even as in England, there is sometimes said to be a Beer and Bible alliance between the brewers and the clergy, so "Le Siecle" represented a kind of Wine and Democracy compact. It was found in every Parisian wine shop, and during the earlier years of the Empire it had been the only journal of democratic tendencies which the authorities tolerated. Le"onor Havin, who became an Opposition deputy in the Corps Le"gislatif, conducted the paper with great ability for several years, but he was dead when Zola negotiated the publication of his novel, and "Le Siecle" had fallen into the hands of that journalistic abomination, an " editorial board." Zola had a friend at court in the person of M. Castagnary, who many years previously had done for Courbet what Zola, comparatively recently, had done for Manet. But Castagnary, while exercising considerable influence, helping to impart a more resolute Eepublican tone

to the paper, was not all powerful in the board room; and not only had Zola already made a good many enemies in his own profession, but a recollection of the opposition which his earlier novels had encountered from the readers of other newspapers, so influenced "Le Siecle's" editorial committee that it again and again postponed the publication of "La Fortune des Eougon."

Thus Zola found himself in an unpleasant position at the very moment when he hoped to live in a little quietude and